(c) the details of action taken thereon;

(d) whether in view of Kargil intrusion and Subrahmanyam Committee Report, Government have taken any safety and security measures; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The former Chiefs to Staff have recommended reorganisation of the national security system. Similarly, the Kargil Review Committee has also recommended review of the National security system. In view of the importance and sensitivity of the subject and after careful consideration of the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and other relevant aspects, the Government has decided that the national security system in its entirety be thoroughly reviewed by a Group of Ministers headed by the Home Minister with Raksha Mantri, External Affairs Minister and Finance Minister as its members.

(d) and (e) The specific recommendations made by Kargil Review Committee (Subrahmanyam Committee) for strengthening the surveillance system by acquisition of (a) high altitude UA Vs, (b) communication interception equipment, (c) satellite imagery capability of world standards, and (d) development of skills in encryption/decryption have been accepted by the Government in principle. Further, the Armed Forces have been directed to step up their vigil all along the LoC and international border. Measures taken to counter Kargil like situation are also being reviewed regularly by the Government.

Experts Team to Collect Secret Information

†3376. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to constitute a team of experts with a view to coordinate the task of collecting secret information for the armed forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the said team is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Government has in view of the importance and sensitivity of the subject and after careful consideration of the recommendations of the Kargil Review

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Committee and other relevant aspects decided that the national security system in its entirety be thoroughly reviewed by a Group of Ministers headed by the Home Minister with Raksha Mantri, External Affairs Minister and Finance Minister as its members.

Aerial Surveillance Vehicle

3377. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to acquire high altitude and long endurance Unmanned Aerial Surveillance Vehicle;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these would be actually purchased to keep a vigil on the line of control?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The acquisition of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles by the Army and the Navy is under consideration of Ministry of Defence. Negotiations are being conducted with the vendor.

In the case of the Air Force, a contract for this acquisition has been concluded.

Non-ocurrence of Kargil like intrusion

3378. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how Government would assure the country of the non-occurrence of Kargil like intrusion in future;

(b) whether Subrahmanyam Committee's Report has blamed the country's external intelligence agency and army for the Kargil intrusion; and

(c) what are the corrective measures being taken by such agencies to check such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Government has tabled the Kargil Review Committee Report in the Rajya Sabha on 28th February 2000 and in the Lok Sabha on 24th February 2000 along with its Executive Summary and the Report on action initiated by the Government. Further, a Supplementary Action Taken Report has been tabled